

The Athens Post.

BY SAM. P. IVINS.

ATHENS, TENN., FRIDAY, MAY 20, 1859.

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TERMS:
THE POST IS PUBLISHED EVERY FRIDAY.
At Two Dollars a Year, Payable in Advance.
No attention paid to orders for the paper unless accompanied by the Cash.
ADVERTISERS will be charged \$1 per square for 10 lines, or less, for the first insertion, and 25 cents for each continuance. A liberal deduction made to those who advertise by the year.
Persons sending advertisements must mark the number of times they desire them inserted, or they will be continued until ordered and charged accordingly.
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All communications intended to promote the private ends or interests of Corporations, Societies, Schools or Individuals, will be charged as advertisements.
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All letters addressed to the Proprietor, will be promptly attended to.
No communication inserted unless accompanied by the name of the author.
Office on Main street, next door to the old Jackson Hotel.

The Post.

Athens, Friday, May 20, 1859.

NEW ORLEANS, May 12.—The steamer Tennessee, with Vera Cruz dates of the 8th, and Mexico of the first, has arrived. News important.
Robles is at Jalapa with 1000 men and has issued a decree forbidding the passage of American mails.
There is great confusion at the Capital. A change of the Presidency is expected.

OUTBREAK IS FEARED.
Miramonte is trying to raise money in Europe, on the church property.
The Archbishop has consented to a mortgage.
Nicasarua, 2d.—News unimportant.
Belly is trying to buy the Congress.
The English and French fleets are still at Sacrifices.

MEXICO, May 2.—Miramonte has issued a decree that all Gulf ports shall be closed to foreign commerce.
Guadalupe has been taken by the Liberals.
The clergy are trying to raise forty millions for Miramonte, but are unsuccessful.

EXCITEMENT IN THE CUSTOM HOUSE.—A circular received from the Secretary of the Treasury, addressed to the heads of the different divisions of the New York Custom-house, requesting them to adopt some plan by which the present force may be reduced one-fourth, has created considerable excitement among the Custom-house officials. There are now three lucrative vacancies in the New York Custom-house: *Soleur* clerk, \$1,500; chief clerk, \$1,000; assistant appraiser, \$2,000.

THE DRUNKARD.—Alas! the poor drunkard, he around whom the arch enemy has thrown all his enervating charms; he whose every hope and aspiration is to gratify the hellish appetite which strong drink has formed within him; he is fallen—fallen! If, in a lucid moment, he dare look up to see if there is any refuge, he finds no star of hope twinkling in the far-off, azure blue! No voice of encouragement, of promise, of hope, salutes his ear. But instead, the jeer of ridicule, the hiss of scorn, the kick of contempt, are given as his portion, and he turns again to his cup, to bury his grief and woes in the sleep of drunken forgetfulness.

JOHN L. T. SNEED.—This gentleman has been nominated by the Whig Convention at Somerville, for Congress, in the Memphis District, and has accepted the position assigned him.

TENNESSEE BONDS.—Tennessee six per cent. bonds, due in 1860, were quoted in New York, on the 9th inst., at 93.

HERE IS A GOOD CHANCE FOR OLD MAIDS. The First District School Board of New Orleans have resolved "that hereafter no young lady teacher will be allowed to contract a marriage while occupying the position of teacher, and such an act on her part shall be virtually considered a resignation."

DISCOURAGED.—A Pike's Peak writer to a Minnesota journal says the miners are very much discouraged in that region; they have to dig through a solid vein of silver four feet thick before they reach the gold.

THE EDITORS OF THE LOUISVILLE COURIER AND DEMOCRAT are busily engaged in proving each other to have been Abolitionists a few years ago, and they have both succeeded admirably.

ONE THOUSAND AFRICAN NEGROES WANTED.—An advertisement appears in the News, published at Entropie, Mississippi, addressed to shipowners and masters of our mercantile marine, offering \$300 each for 1,000 native Africans, between the ages of fourteen and twenty, sound and healthy, to be delivered within twelve months, at some point between Pensacola, Florida, and Galveston, Texas. The advertisement is signed by eighteen responsible citizens, whose character is vouched for by the editor of the News.

FIFTY EDITORS, IN MAINE, recently went on an excursion, they made a common purse and bought a box of sardines for dinner. In consequence of that reckless extravagance, forty-nine of them have since taken the benefit of the bankruptcy act.

THE QUID-NUNO, published at Grand Junction, Tennessee, says the identity of the man who murdered Miller, the bank officer, at Jackson, has been determined, though his name has not been made public.—*Mobile Advertiser.*

The suspected man, alluded to above, was in Holly Springs, we learn on the day that Pleasant M. Mank was executed, and the last that was heard of him was in Holly Springs, in this place, he had a considerable sum of money, and from the information we have received, we have no doubt that he was the murderer of young Miller.—*Holly Springs Herald, 2d ed.*

Facts for the People—Frauds in the Navy Department.

From the minority report of the Special Committee on Naval Contracts, made by Mr. Sherman to the House, on the 24th February, 1859, we gather the following facts:

"Congress, in June last, authorized Secretary Toucey of the Navy to advertise for furnishing the machinery of seven new steam sloops of war, with a view of obtaining the lowest offers and the most responsible bidders. From the report we are enabled to make up the following table:

BIDS OFFERED.	
Novelty Works,	\$98,500
Novelty Works,	97,000
Novelty Works,	96,000
Allaire Works,	97,000
Murray & Hazen,	100,000
\$490,500	
BIDS ACCEPTED.	
Woodruff & Beach,	\$125,000
Murray & Co.,	130,000
Merrick & Sons,	102,000
Boston Loco. Works,	104,000
Morgan Works,	120,000
\$581,000	

In these five of the seven contracts, there was a difference of \$90,500 between the rejected offers of well known establishments and those which were accepted; and, if the other two were awarded after the same fashion, the entire loss to the country was \$115,700, or over eighteen thousand dollars on each vessel! The rejected bids were from the most eminent works in the Union."

By the foregoing it will be seen that the Novelty Works of New York, and the Reading Forge Company—among the best and most responsible in the country, proposed to execute the work for \$98,000 whilst the offer of Merrick & Sons, who proposed to execute the work for \$102,000, and by the terms of the law the Secretary of the Navy had no alternative, but to give the contract to the lowest responsible bidder, which no doubt would have been done, but for the following most remarkable correspondence, which, as a justification or excuse at least, for the gross misconduct of the Secretary, was laid before the committee of investigation:

Col. W. Patterson of Phila., to the President.

PHILADELPHIA, Sept. 13, 1858.
Dear Sir:—I venture to suggest to you the importance of awarding the contracts for the machinery of the sloops now building at the navy yard at this time, and if it can be done without prejudice to the public service, to Merrick & Sons. Theirs is the only establishment in the First District which employs a large number of mechanics; at this time, 330; when in full work, 450.

"The managing partners (Mr. M. S., being absent, in bad health), are full of energy, straining every nerve to keep their force during this depression, and, so far as I know, the only old Whigs of any influence in that District who are in favor of the re-election of Colonel Florence."

"I know, from former experience, the value of that influence, and feel persuaded that it is the interest of the Democratic party to increase it."

"The First District will, I hope, be carried in any event, but with that shop at work, full handed, two weeks prior to the election, the result, would, I think, be placed beyond all doubt."

With much respect,

The President. W. C. PATTERSON.

This letter was sent to the Secretary of the Navy by the President with this endorsement:

SEPTEMBER 15, 1859

"The enclosed letter from Colonel Patterson, of Philadelphia, is submitted to the attention of the Secretary of the Navy."

J. B.

The result of this unworthy and shameful interference, on the part of the President, was that the contract was given to Merrick & Sons, by which the law was grossly violated, the whole object of advertising for the lowest bidder was defeated, the legal rights of private citizens were abused, four thousand dollars of the public money was unlawfully drawn from the treasury and the sacred right of free representation was trampled under foot by the representative man of the Democratic party, in order to secure the election of one of his Philadelphia pets; and yet it was Mr. Buchanan who said in his letter to the Fort Duquesne celebration, only last summer or fall: "Never will I in a brief period have heard of the employment of money to carry elections. Should this practice be indulged until the voters and their representatives in the State and National Legislatures become infected, the FOUNDATION OF FREE GOVERNMENT WILL THEN BE POISONED AT ITS SOURCE, AND WE MUST END, AS HISTORY PROVES, IN A MILITARY DESPOTISM."

Here we have the professed Democratic morality and patriotism, on the one hand, on the other, the practice of the professor, or, against which no "watch-dog" of the treasury or of the people's liberties has yet raised a voice of warning. Why sleeps "the watch-dog?" Why slumbers the indignation of the Democracy?

"LIVE OAK CONTRACTS."—W. N. C. Swift, a whaler, of New Bedford, Massachusetts, had, prior to 1844, been a contractor for the supply of live-oak and other timber for the government. In 1844 he entered into a written agreement with George Pitts, of Philadelphia, an active and intimate friend of President Buchanan, by which Pitts agreed to aid Swift all he could in obtaining live-oak contracts with the Navy Department. The aid contemplated was that Pitts should place Swift on familiar relations with the Departments. He introduced Mr. Swift to Mr. Dobbin during President Pierce's administration, and to other gentlemen, and used all his influence in behalf of Swift. Pending the Presidential election of 1856, Pitts introduced Swift to Mr. Buchanan, and brought to place him in the very best position he possibly could with the President. Pitts, at the time, was treasurer of the Democratic State Central Committee of Pennsylvania, and as such received from Swift

the sum of sixteen thousand dollars, of which Swift contributed ten thousand dollars, and received the balance from his immediate friends, to be used in the pending election. Mr. Buchanan was informed before the election, that Mr. Swift was an old line Whig, who had come over to his party, and was taking an active part in the election; and he was subsequently informed of the amount contributed by Swift."

These facts appear from the testimony before the Committee of Investigation.

It appears further, that this man, Swift, who had been frequently recommended to the President as a good fellow, had in his possession a large quantity of rejected timber, which he wished to sell the Government. The rule of the Department has been to allow contractors two years to fill their contracts, and never to make an open purchase except for immediate use. Now, it appears that the Secretary of the Navy, in June, 1858, advertised for 150,000 feet of live-oak, the quantity, size and form being exactly like that held by Swift. The limited time prevented any competition. The yellow fever prevailed in the live-oak regions, and it was impossible for the cutters to visit that region. "We cannot here go at length into the details of this extraordinary and disreputable transaction; we must content ourselves with the result, which was, that Swift in consideration of being a capital good fellow, which was clearly established by his having contributed ten thousand dollars towards the election of Mr. Buchanan—this was before the Duquesne letter was written—was reimbursed seventeen times over out of the public treasury by the sale of a mass of worthless timber that was then lying in the navy yards where good timber was in abundance—as rejected and good for nothing, for which he received the moderate compensation of \$171,200. Yet no "watch-dog" has raised his voice to give the people warning of this open, daylight robbery of the public money."

PAYING THE FIDELITY FOR MR. BUCHANAN.

A correspondent, says the Washington States, Democratic, asks us for information regarding the cost of the Marine band. We have enquired into the matter, and the following are the facts of the case:—The regular pay of the Marine band, independent of the cost of their subsistence, quarters, clothing, etc., is about \$8,000 a year. But the act of August 18, 1856, gives them \$1,200 a year extra for performing at the President's House and the Capitol; that act which allows \$4 per month extra to the band "as long as they shall perform at the public grounds," is so liberally construed as to pay them \$100 per month for every month in the year, whether they so perform or not. The Government is also taxed for the line of omnibuses to carry them to and from the public grounds, as well as for the purchase of instruments, etc. This band renders almost no service to the Government, and are maintained and supported at public expense while nearly all their time is devoted to military and other parades, balls, etc., for which they are extravagantly paid.

SALES OF STOCK.—The Charleston News of Tuesday reports the following sales:

14 Bonds, \$500 each, South Carolina Railroad Company, at 98.

7 Bonds, \$500 each, South Carolina Railroad Company, at 98.

5 Bonds, \$500 each, City of Columbia 6 per cent. 84.

1 Bond, \$500, Greenville and Columbia Railroad Company, at 95.

2,907 1/2 State of South Carolina 6 per cent. Stock, at 103.52.

50 Shares Charlotte and South Carolina Railroad Company Stock, at 72.25.

30 Shares South Carolina Railroad Bank Stock, at 123.75.

A ROBBACK.—The current newspaper story that the War Department has had occasion to send an agent to Tennessee to arrest individuals charged with obtaining money from the Government on false vouchers for the purchase of mules for army purposes is untrue. No such agents have been sent there, because no such payments on false vouchers have been made.—*Washington Star.*

PIKES PEAK.—The evidence that the wonderful stories told of the Pikes Peak gold diggings are fictitious grows stronger every day, and there is little doubt but that the glowing and seductive accounts of the glittering treasure to be found there, are gotten up and circulated by parties who have a direct interest in inducing emigration thither. Fortunately we sometimes get a true statement of facts respecting the condition of affairs. In the last Kansas City Journal of Commerce, there is published a letter from the late Mayor of Nebraska City, in which Pike's Peak gold mines are emphatically denounced as a humbug, and the friends of the writer are earnestly advised to stay away from them. He says that his company "have found the best quality yet discovered, and cannot make one dollar per day."

A LAW was passed at the recent session of the Maine Legislature, which provides that any attorney-at-law who neglects or refuses to pay monies belonging to his client for ten days after demand, shall be deemed guilty of a breach of duty, and an attorney, who such neglect shall be held to answer, before the Supreme Court, and if guilty, the Court shall strike his name from the roll of attorneys in said Court.

JOHNSON was told of a supper at which goblets of ice were used from which to drink champagne. Johnson, in surprise, heard the story through, and then said: "Walk, ice-ware!"

"There is said to be many a ship between the cup and the lip," but it would be well for some of our young men, and old ones too, if there were a good many more.

Banks or No Banks—Corporations or No Corporations.

The people of Tennessee have to decide in August whether they will destroy the long established banking institutions now in existence, and adopt the antiquated humbug of a strictly metallic currency, or whether they will support the present system, after it has been improved by the most stringent safeguards and restrictions. The position of the two parties is well defined, and no one need be deceived. The Democratic party takes the ground primarily that gold and silver is the only constitutional currency, and of course they are bound to inaugurate such a currency, should they be entrusted with the power. Gov. Harris is essentially an anti-bank man. The Memphis Avalanche, which is avowedly among the "Hardheads,"—which denounces all banks, and scorns all compromises of gold and silver—has no objection, if they may simply announce that he is unconstitutionally opposed to re-chartering the Union and Planters' banks—opposed to chartering any new banks at the next session of the Legislature. These banks are as sound and reliable as any banks in the country. It is true they suspended during the recent crisis, but not until after the Bank of Tennessee had suspended. They resumed among the first—before the Bank of Tennessee. They refused to accept the legislation of the last General Assembly, yet by their action brought about the present state of our currency, forcing the Bank of Tennessee into reformatory measures. Yet the Democratic party are opposed to banks, and have constitutional grounds, and having a State institution, entirely the creature of the Legislature—are openly fostering that institution, and openly warning upon a good better banks, over which the Legislature has no control, if they may simply announce that he is unconstitutionally opposed to banks, why they propose to hold on to it, because they have a partial interest in keeping it alive, while they are seeking to destroy institutions almost no service to the Government, and are maintained and supported at public expense while nearly all their time is devoted to military and other parades, balls, etc., for which they are extravagantly paid.

The Democratic party seek to inflict upon the banking system an insidious stab. They declare substantially that incorporated companies shall have no vested rights—that should the Legislature give the corporate existence, and induce them to invest their capital in preparing to prosecute business, they are liable, without cause, to be deprived of their privileges by the Legislature. The Opposition party say that no man would invest capital under such circumstances. They declare that they will not support the incorporation of banks or other corporations, and will strictly guard to prevent frauds, except by violation of their provisions, and that whenever such violation occurs the violator should not be allowed to go unpunished until the Legislature may cancel—perhaps too late—during which time he may commit all kinds of frauds and escape at last—but that it shall be the duty of the Attorney General to commence process immediately against such capitalists in the election of proper tribunals or judicial, where he will be subjected to the penalties provided in the case.

This idea of the Legislature retaining the power to alter, amend, or abolish the charter of an incorporated company, without said company having violated any of the provisions thereof, or in any way committed an offence against the people or the law, is a new fangled notion in Tennessee legislation a loan, and as we know, in the legislation of any State, it is a violation of the principles of indirect way of stabbing at banks, and endorsing the metallic humbug. It embodies a principle which, if carried out, would upset all the order of business. We presume the Democratic party subscribe to this resolution in the Democratic platform, and rent from his neighbor a plantation with the understanding that, at the pleasure of the owner, he was to pick up his plunder and get out of the way. He might purchase farming implements, stock, &c., and use them in his land, and the plunder would come along and say to this opponent of vested rights: "Mr. Democrat, you must leave here. I don't think you are farming legitimately, and I can't stand it. Yet the Democratic party announce that they are in favor of incorporating the country. It would have been more honest and many—though less characteristic—if they had at once announced that they were opposed to the incorporation of any kind of corporation by the Legislature, under any circumstances. Both positions reach the same result—one travels two ways to reach it, and the other is direct.—*Nashville Banner.*

The Richmond South has discovered that the "League of United Southerners" is a Know Nothing movement for the purpose of circumventing and swamping the Southern Democracy. The South can see further into the plot and national millstones and find more mares' nests in the tall rank grass of sectional agitation than any other glass-eyed politician of its entire school. Does it not know that Yancy, of Ala., the head of the league, and that Mr. Rutin, of Va., has the notoriety of his conception—both as clearly Democrats as Felix Grundy ever was, who boasted that he was born a veteran in the ranks. If there is anything of good or evil in the League, the Southern Whigs and Americans cannot share its glory or shame. As it was sired by Democracy, and its dam Secession, we can imagine, without any great stretch of fancy, what a brood of Calibans it will engender!—*Louisville Journal.*

CORRO.—The Florence (Ala.) Gazette of the 4th says:

From a private letter received on Saturday last, written by a friend who resides a few miles Northwest from Courtland, we learn that the cotton is coming up finely, and fine prospects for a good stand. Corn pretty good, and looks well.

"I can't see how you can sit and eat while your wife is sick."

"You see, my dear fellow, it is not that I love my wife less, but I love pan-cakes more."

Smith writes to Jones to say that he has splendid dinners at West. "Ram, lamb, sheep, and mutton every day."

"Touch not, taste not, handle not!" this will apply to a great many things among the number especially cordials and painted women.

Weakness of Democracy.

We invite the special attention of our democratic friends to the following article from the Baltimore Clipper, one of the ablest and most conservative journals of the Union:

Some of the loco-foco organs of the South piteously deplore the dissensions and divisions in the ranks of the democracy, and earnestly invoke a union of the democratic party "to meet and put down the coalition which the abolitionists and Know Nothings are striving to effect."

It is in vain that these sentinels of loco-focoism cry "Peace! peace!" when there is no peace. The discord in the democratic party is not ephemeral. It is the growth of years of double dealing and political hypocrisy. It parades the whole party organization, which in no two States of the Union, and hardly in any two counties of a State, stands upon the same platform or supports the same principles.

It is in vain that the blind leaders of the blind now call upon the people to decide "whether it is not safer and wiser to trust the government of the country in the hands of Democrats than in the hands of abolitionists." This is not the question before the country. There is no party in the South proposing a coalition with the abolitionists of the North.

So far as the question of slavery is concerned the whole South is a unit, and the Southern Know Nothings are farther even than the intensest pro-slavery democracy from contemplating any "coalition" with abolitionism in any shape or form whatsoever. They have proposed no such union, and those who proclaim it know that they utter falsehoods, and wantonly pervert the facts. The Americans of Maryland, and of the other Southern States, have called upon the conservative men in those States to unite in opposition to democracy, and they have invoked the cooperation of the conservative men throughout the whole country in the formation of a party which shall advocate strictly national principles and shall bitterly oppose sectionalism of all kinds.

They are striving to erect a successful national party which shall "meet and put down" sectional democracy at the South, and sectional Republicanism at the North, and concluding by the senseless and dangerous agitation by which the country has been sadly and ruinously distracted, to restore some semblance of nationality and patriotism to the politics and parties of the Union.

The democratic party is confessedly useless for this purpose. It can, under no circumstances, rise above a mere sectional organization. Those who urge the people of the South to unite in ranks and sustain democratic candidates are madly advising them to bring on a purely sectional contest in which the South will inevitably be defeated. There is no chance, no glimmer of the hope for the success of the democratic party in another national contest. It would be sheer madness, the supremest folly for the friends of Southern institutions to invite such a contest. The success of the democratic party in the election of 1860, would be held in the Southern States will unquestionably precipitate such an event and all hope of the election of a national administration will be gone. If the people of the South were all democrats, if they were all honestly in favor of democratic principles, it would be their interest in the present emergency to separate from the democratic leaders and invite the cooperation of conservative men of the North to avoid and prevent another purely sectional struggle. A national party is needed for the preservation of the Union and the maintenance of the free institutions of the country. The masses of the people North and South appreciate this necessity. In the North they have been misled by the Republican and Abolition demagogues. In the South, they have been betrayed by the selfish leaders of the democratic party. The scales have fallen from their eyes. They are awakening to a sense of the perils of their position, and in both sections, the true friends of the Union are putting aside this silly and unprofitable sectional nonsense and are rallying to the defense of the Union and the constitution in the formation of a great and successful national party which shall give to the country an administration pledged to correct the abuses of democratic misrule and to restore to the government patriotism and real nationality.

Those in the South who are invoking the people to support the democratic candidates are counselling them to rush upon their own ruin. They are working literally for the success of the Abolition-Republican party in 1860. They are, in fact, the most useful coadjutors of Wm. L. Chapin, and Wm. Phillips, and Wm. Lloyd Garrison, and the whole crew of abolition fanatics. They are putting into the hands of these Northern sectional agitators the weapons they need and cannot otherwise obtain, with which to crush, and degrade, and overcome the South, or to force her out of the Union. They are, unwittingly, perhaps, the South's worst enemies. Let the people beware of their dangerous counsels, and shun them as they would the arch traitors and betrayers of their true interests.

Governor S., of South Carolina, was a splendid lawyer, and could talk a jury out of their seven senses. He was especially noted for his success in criminal cases, almost always clearing his client.

He was once counsel for a man accused of horse stealing. He made a long, eloquent, and touching speech. The jury retired, but returned in a few moments, and with tears in their eyes, declared the man not guilty. An old acquaintance stepped up to the prisoner and said:

"Jem, the danger is past; and now how bright, didn't you steal that horse?"

To which Jem replied:

"Well, Tom, I've all along thought I took that horse, but I've heard the Governor's speech, I don't believe I did."

A gun is said to be dangerous without lock, stock or barrel; for an instance in on record, where a wreath of a husband whipped his unfortunate wife to with a ram-rod, and it now appears that percussion caps are highly injurious when taken into the stomach as an aliment, or swallowed accidentally. A little son of Samuel Short, residing in Newburyport, lately died of consumption of swallowing a percussion cap. Specimens could be sent out to let their powder and caps be taken.

The Young Widow.

She is modest, but not bashful—Free and easy, but not bold—Like an apple, ripe and mellow—Not too young and not too old—Half inviting, half repulsive—Now advancing and now shy—There is mischief in her smile—There is danger in her eye.

She has studied human nature—She is schooled in all its arts—She has taken her diploma—As the mistress of all hearts—She can tell the very moment—When to sigh and when to smile—True, a maiden is sometimes charming—But the widow all the while.

Are you well, how very affable—Will her handsome face become—Are you angry? she is wretched—Lonely, friendless, fearful, dumb—Are you miserable? how her laughter—Silver-sounding, will ring out—She can love, and snarl, and play you—As the angler does the trout.

Imports and Exports—Another Crisis.

"Independent," the reliable Washington correspondent of the Philadelphia American and Gazette, says:

Owing to the imperfect manner and the want of uniformity with which the returns of imports and exports are reported to the Treasury, the state of trade during the last nine months of the fiscal year cannot be determined approximately, except by comparison and estimates.

The imports at New York for the three quarters which ended on the 31st of March, are stated at \$150,199,223 of dutiable merchandise, and the exports for the same period at \$41,720,476, exclusive of \$21,662,264 in specie. By contrasting these ascertained results with those of the previous fiscal year, which expired on the 30th of June, 1858, some idea may be formed of the condition of trade. The dutiable imports for the years 1857-58, at New York, were \$137,208,207, and the domestic exports for the same time \$83,603,441.

It will be seen from these figures, that the imports for the past nine months have exceeded those for the whole previous year by \$12,991,014, while the domestic exports have fallen off in a still larger proportion.

The commerce of New York, as a standard for estimating that of the rest of the country, and from that basis every intelligent observer can draw his own conclusions. The present imports, though largely reduced from the aggregate of the year preceding the revolution, are still wholly disproportionate to the exports. As a necessary consequence, the shipment of gold has already commenced in large sums to pay the difference, and to repeat the folios from which the country is just beginning to be extricated, after the severest financial prostration yet experienced in our whole history. We do not appear to have profited much by that costly instruction.

INTELLIGENT TRAVELER.—A German writer, who has published an account of men and things in the United States, says that "the condition of the negroes in New York was at one time very bad, but, owing to some reforms introduced by Gen. Jackson, it is now considerably alleviated."

A pious lady in Virginia was in the habit of having family worship every evening, and it was a rule of her's that all the servants should attend. On one occasion a Dutchman, fresh from Pennsylvania, staid all night at the house, and was much struck by the assembling of the negroes at prayers. After they had all retired to rest, a small boy who remained to light the stove, and who, being excited, told him she certainly did, "and that she felt a deep interest for their salvation."

The Dutchman then turned to the negro, and asked him:

"Boy, do you think a nigger has got a soul?"

"Oh, yes," said the boy; "I reckon they got souls."

"Well, boy, do you think you would be allowed to go to heaven?"

"Yes, sir, I 'pece I will; I 'lows to git in."

"Now, boy, whereabouts do you think they'd put a fellow like youin heaven?"

"I dunno, sir," said the boy; "but I reckon I'll git in somewhere 'tween de white people and de Dutch."

A PIKE'S PEAK'S OCEAN.—A gentleman who has "traveled all the way" assures us that the following is all that is necessary to secure a safe arrival at the new El Dorado—Pike's Peak:

"100 lbs. of flour, 2 bbls. of whiskey; 50 lbs. of bacon, 40 gallons of whiskey; 100 lbs. of venison, 10 demijohns of whiskey; 2 boxes of dried herring, 1 bbl. of whiskey; 1 bbl. of pickles, 1 bbl. whiskey; 12 quart mugs. A little more whiskey may be necessary, but the other articles will hold out if the man is not a tremendous glutton."

The brother of Gen. Zamora at Vera Cruz, recently committed suicide on account of supposed financial difficulties; but after his death, it was ascertained that he had made a mistake of \$1,000,000 against himself in making up his balance sheet.

"Why does father call mother honey?" asked a boy of his older brother.

"Can't tell, 'cept it's because she has a large comb in her head."

JUST OUR OPINION.—The Baltimore "Exchange," a violent Democratic paper, makes the admission that "if the Democratic party has not now the vigor and vitality which characterized it some years back, it is because its resources have been too frequently and freely drawn upon for the maintenance of bad men and reckless measures."

Gen. Zachary Taylor says there are many persons who think Sunday is a wrong day to stop at, and that they don't go to bed on that day.

The Banks.

We copy the following extract from an article in the Nashville News, an independent journal, upon the currency:

We are in favor of banks, at present, if properly regulated; and our limited knowledge extends to none which are better regulated and managed, than the three old banks of our State. And as we believe those three banks are immensely advantageous to all classes of citizens, rich and poor, we desire to ask the people, whether they are willing to have them hamstringing, by putting their characters at the mercy of every new swarm of adventurous apprentices in politics, who shall biennially visit the State House, to chew tobacco, smoke pipes and cigars, and drink whisky and champagne, at four dollars per day? Though we have not thoroughly examined into the matter, we believe by far the larger proportion of the stock in the Union and Planters' Bank is owned by persons living out of the State; which capitalists, cut merchants, traders, farmers, and mechanics, a capital in business which, if those institutions be not re-chartered, will of course be at once removed entirely from among us. This is a serious consideration, and is not peddled about our streets, at rates calculated to ruin even the rich, and on terms absolutely beyond the reach of the poor, so that money would necessarily be had at a price which would make a bank of trade to the State, as rich as the rich, at six per cent., upon such security as will guard the banks against loss.

We ask every sane man, poor or rich, if he supposes these capitalists, whose means are, in these banks, a blessing to all classes of the people, and which go far in saving them from the clutches of insatiable shavers, who hoard money merely to take advantage of their neighbors' distresses, would have the simplicity to take stock in banks whose charters each succeeding Legislature may "change, modify, or abolish," before their expiration or violation? We scarcely think a boy of ten years, with ordinary guidance, would make such an investment. As I fear, such a boy might easily be shown the absurdity of so uncertain a speculation, by the simile of a mud mill-dam.

Is it not simply sufficient that those institutions have limited charters, granted them by the people, through their representatives; defining their powers, and placing them within reasonable restrictions, and which they forfeit by going beyond those powers, and transcending those restrictions? There is nothing in this to array the rich against the poor, but much to assist the poor in preserving their equality with the rich; much assistance brought from a distance and laid at the poor man's door; a chartered capital, which saves many a poor man from the hands of wealthy Shylocks, who would take the "pound of flesh" for the "yellow boys" advanced at twenty-five per cent., on a judgment against the poor man's extra coat or horse.

THE FARMER'S MOTTO.

Gen. Pierce closed an agricultural Address at Twinsburg, Ohio, as follows:

"Let the farmer's motto be, then, 'good farms, good stock, good